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OGC Has Reviewed

Chief, Support Staff/FE

19 August 1952

Assistant General Counsel

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Additional Compensation —

1. Operational and administrative officials of FE have been receiving complaints for some time of the high cost of living in [REDACTED] especially the cost of obtaining satisfactory housing.

2. One proposed solution has been to grant a special allowance of \$10.00 a day for a period not to exceed sixty days or until permanent quarters are occupied within that maximum period. However, it does not appear that such payments are legally justified and we have so advised the Chief, Finance Division in a memorandum of this date.

3. Another proposal is contained in the memorandum of 9 May 1952 from the Chief, FE to AD/BO, AD/PC, AD/CO and AD/P, entitled "Temporary Promotions for Staff Personnel assigned to the [REDACTED]". The AD/PC did not concur in this proposal since he believed it would be difficult to administer and would establish an undesirable precedent. His reasons seem persuasive.

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4. It appears that our employees in [REDACTED] are in no worse position than other Federal employees there and hence, that no case has been made out for invoking the special powers granted this Agency by Congress. There is a general housing problem in the [REDACTED] area which should be alleviated by Federal and [REDACTED] action. In the meantime, it has been suggested that people in the lower-salary grades should not be sent to [REDACTED] and that the Agency should provide assistance in helping employees to locate quarters there. Also it will be useful to confer with other agencies to see what steps, if any, they plan to take on this matter.

5. We desire to cooperate in any way possible in order to find a solution to this problem.

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OGC/RGH:im

Distribution -

Orig - Addressee

cc - Chief, Finance

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